PATENT

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I hereby certify that this correspondence (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being faxed to 571-273-8300 on the date shown below to Mail Stop AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.

Date: 3-30-06

Himanshu S. Amin

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of:

Applicant(s): George D. Blankenship et al.

Examiner:

Nacem U. Haq

Serial No:

09/838,970

Art Unit:

3625

Filing Date:

April 20, 2001

Title: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR MANAGING WELDING CONSUMABLES

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

REPLY TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION DATED FEBRUARY 3, 2006

Dear Sir:

Favorable reconsideration of the above-identified patent application is respectfully requested in view of the following comments and amendments.